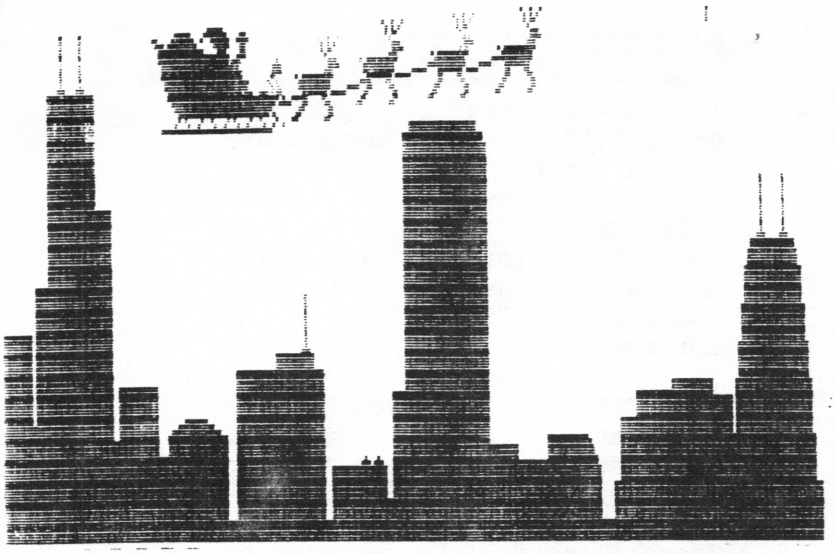

NITE-TIMES NEWS

Chicago Area Timex Users Group **Downers Grove, Illinois**
Volume 3, Number 6 November/December 1989

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C.A.T.U.G. CLUB OFFICERS

Here is the list of 1989 club officers and how to contact them. The club has two strong SIGS, SPECTRUM/TS2068 and QL. If you have questions about either of these fine machines or even the ZX81/TS1000/TS1500 call one of the officers for direction.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Butch Weinberg	373-2470	The buck stops here...
Vice-President	Gary Lessenberry	473-9415	Meeting Planning, etc.
Secretary	John Donaldson	837-7957	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	Al Feng	971-0495	Dues and Purchasing

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NITE-TIMES Information

The Nite-Times News is the newsletter of the Chicago Area Timex Users Group. For an annual fee of $10.00 you can become a CATUG member with full membership privileges. Send your dues to :

CATUG Treasure Al Feng
15 Wake Robin Ct.
Woodridge, IL 60517

The Chicago Area Timex Users Group is pleased to exchange newsletters with other Timex and Sinclair supporting users groups at no charge. If you desire to reprint any articles that appear here, please provide credit to the author and this newsletter.

We encourage your user group to copy this newsletter and distribute it at your regular meetings to your members free of any charge as we believe that this will encourage better meeting attendance. If you are a user group that feels as we do, please let us know in your newsletter so that we might do this for our members and keep our attendance up.

Articles originating from our group can be had on tape or LarKen Disk for use in Magazines by contacting the editor. As this newsletter can be downloaded from our BBS you may reprint it using this means.

If you have any suggestions or would like to submit an article, please contact:

NITE-TIMES NEWS EDITOR
Bob Swoger
613 Parkside Circle
Streamwood, IL 60107

It is preferred that you call:
H708/837-7957
or
W708/576-8068

NITE-TIMES CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to contribute an ARTICLE to the newsletter, put a file in your CATUG account DIRectory named NITETIMES.ART If you have special buy information, place a file in your account named COMPUTER.BUY If you have an AD for the newsletter, put a file in your account named COMPUTER.ADS If you have information on a Special Interest Group, place a file in your account called SIG.NWS

These files will be gathered by the BBS and downloaded to the editor. If you don't have a CATUG account either get one or contact the editor by mail, phone, or in person.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Butch Weinberg
John Donaldson
Al Feng
Dave Lebowitz
Bob Swoger, K9WVY

CLUB MEETINGS

The Chicago Area Timex Users Group meets on the second Saturday of each month at the home of Steve Cooper in Downers Grove, Illinois from 1:00 to 5:00 PM.

Steves home is located at 1300 Maple Street in Downers Grove just 2 blocks southwest of the Downers Grove Public Library.

The CATUG coordinator for our meetings is Steve Cooper and he can be contacted during the evening at 708/968-3553.

DATA INTERRUPT

TO OTHER USERS GROUPS:
Last time we asked that each group send their list of groups that they presently exchange newsletters with. As promised, we are printing our list. We

have received only two such responses so far.

SINCLAIR MILWAUKEE USERS GROUP
P.O.BOX 101
BUTLER, WI 53007

SINC-LINK TORONTO T/S USERS CLUB
c/o EDITOR GEORGE CHAMBERS
14 RICHOME COURT
SCARBOROUGH, ONT CANADA M1K 2Y1

SINCUS
c/o Paul Hill
1229 RHODES ROAD
JOHNSON CITY, NY 13790

T/SUG OF FORT WORTH
4424 GEDDES AVENUE
FORT WORTH, TX 76107

TIMEX SINCLAIR USERS GROUP
2345 MOORPARK WAY
HENDERSON, NV 89015 TheHACKER

TIMELINEZ/SINCLINK
c/o GEORGE MOCKRIDGE
P.O.BOX 1312
PACIFICA, CA 94044

VISTA NEWSLETTER
c/o TONY WILLING
P.O.BOX 199
VASHON, WASHINGTON 98070

WCUC USER AMUSER
P.O.BOX 3051
GREENSBURG, PA 15601

THE YAOUG NEWSLETTER
650 N. DREXEL
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43219

ZX-APPEAL
c/o ROD HUMPHREYS
2006 HIGHVIEW PLACE
PORT MOODY, B.C. CANADA V3H 1N5

THE RAMTOP
c/o JAMES .G. DUPUY
6514 BRADLEY AVE (DOWN)
PARMA, OHIO 44129

K.A.T.S.
c/o RANDY CUMMINGS
124 W. 10TH
ANDOVER, KS 67002

I.S.T.U.G. NEWSLETTER
c/o FRANK DAVIS
513 EAST MAIN STREET
PERU, IN 46970

HARRISBURG AREA TS USERS GROUP
c/o DAVE BENNETT
329 REAR WALTON STREET
LEMOYNE, PA 17043

FDD EXPRESS NEWSLETTER
c/o RONALD HAVLEN
4307 CHAMBERS ROAD
DHORSEHEADS, NY 14845

THE DATA BUS
c/o GARY GRANGER
812 HEDWICK ST.
NEW CARLISLE, OHIO 45344

K.A.T.S.
c/o REYNOLDS 4557 CHERRY
P.O. BOX 17579
WICHITA, KS 67217

CATS NEWSLETTER
P.O.BOX 467
FAIRFAX STATION, VA 22039

CRAGISTS NEWSLETTER
c/o DON LAMBERT
3310 CLOVER DRIVE S.W.
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA 52404

TS BULLETIN
c/o WILLIAM HARMER
97 RUSKIN STREET
OTTAWA, CANADA K1Y 4B3

THE BOSTON COMPUTER SOCIETY
c/o JOYCE BLAHO
0971 FELLSWAY
MEDFORD, MA 02155

THE SINC TIMES
2942 CHRISTHOPER ROAD
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32217

THE SINC TIMES
c/o STEVE BERG
6634 ORIOLE AVE.
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32216

SNUG
c/o BASIL WENTWORTH
1413 ELLISTON DRIVE
BLOOMINGTON, IN 47401

SNUG
c/o MEL NATHANSON
7515 ARBORDALE DRIVE
PORT RICHEY, FL 34668

THE PLOTTER NEWSLETTER
c/o DICK WAGNER
1419 1/2 7TH STREET
OREGON CITY, OREGON 97045

QZX JOURNAL
c/o ALEX BURR, K5XY
2025 O'DONNELL DRIVE
LAS CRUCES, N.M. 88001

LEMKE SOFTWARE DEVELOPEMENT
2144 WHITE OAK
WICHITA, KS 67207

LIST
5 PERI LANE
VALLEY STREAM, NY 11581

PACC TALK
P.O.BOX 6440
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

S.N.U.G.
c/o PAUL HOLGREN
52310 WILTOM WOOD COURT
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46254

UPDATE!
c/o BILL JONES
1317 STRATFORD AVE.
PANAMA CITY, FL 32404

S.L.U.G.
4122 WALLINGFORD LN.
LOUISVILLE, KY 40218-2365

LARKEN ELECTRONICS
c/o LARRY KENNY
R.R. 2 NAVAN, ONTARIO
CANADA K4B 1H9

CAPITAL DISTRICT T/S CC
c/o JACK BARONE
141 ONTARIO STREET
ALBANY, NY 12206

PLEASE pass along your list in a future newsletter. We will look at your list and send copies of our newsletters to those we are missing. WE HOPE YOU WILL DO THE SAME.

P L E A S E S E N D A L L F U T U R E N E W S L E T T E R S T O O U R N E W L I B R A R I A N A T T H E A D D R E S S G I V E N B E L O W:

It is:

CATUG - C/O Bob Swoger
613 Parkside Circle
Streamwood, IL 60107

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

Bob Swoger, our editor and SYSOP, asked to use this spot this time, so, Bob, you have the floor.

%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%

An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves. (Bill Vaughan - Kansas City)

It has been 10 years since Clive gave us that little white box that made computing possible for us folks with wives, children, pets, large expensives and fixed incomes. The last T/S2068 rolled off the assembly line at the end of 1988 making it one of the longest produced machines in history of the personal computers. The QL was two years ahead of any U.S. company in using the Motorola 68000 series of microprocessors.

As a worker in this and two other clubs, it saddens me to see in print anything negative about things I have donated so much of my time to.

Being a pessimist I am saddened that T/S user groups and venders drop by the wayside. We have lost a few more in 1989. I am also saddened when reading newsletters that hint they might set aside their Sinclair machines. If the LORD allows me to remain on this earth until the year 2000, visitors will still see a T/S2068 on my computer desk because I have had other machines under my finger tips and found no other friendlier. (A New Years resolution?) I would like to hear how many others feel as I do.

Bill Jones hints that he would pass UPDATE magazine on to someone else if they would like it. He showed a drawing of his computer set-up and I have seen

no other like it. I doubt that a single person could do what he is doing. He would have to be replaced by several other people.

I read that someone thought that Larry Kenny, in obtaining a MS-DOS type machine, might be moving away from T/S2068 program development, so I called him. He explained that the move was made to help him turn out his spelling checker for the T/S2068 and that rumors suggesting his moving to the IBM world 'would be counter productive' and he has no intention of leaving the T/S 2068, so that is his message to all of us.

We see that the SNUG is having a hard time getting started and some negative comments have been made about this situation. SNUGs response should be 'Lead, follow, or get out of the way!' There is yet so much to do but too few dedicated workers to get the job done.

I sense that other workers are getting burned out. Some non-workers should jump in and take over a few of those tasks they are capable of doing like newsletter writing and library building to free up others for the other tasks that need doing.

This newsletter job keeps me busy because, by default, I put out three different newsletters! I am the SYSOP of three BBSs, one has been up since 1984! I would rather get the software library up to date and write much needed software. HELP! I will continue, though, until either someone offers to help or take over the job or, there is no more work to be done, I feel this is what Bill Jones was saying.

We would do well to keep our writings in a positive tone to keep the TIMEX/SINCLAIR community going, not only pointing out what is wrong with something but also, at the same time, making positive suggestions as to how it might be made better.

We should encourage SNUG to get going by providing them with a few suggestions. Here are a few thoughts from me:

What if Bill Jones just collected newsletters from the different groups and put on covers and called that UPDATE! A lot less cutting and pasting for him. That would mean that the newsletters would have to come out on 8 1/2 by 11 paper and only 4 times a year. That would lighten up Bills load and the load on all those newsletter editors. It would cut the cost of club mailings. Each newsletter would be packed with the happenings of three months time instead of one. (Ours is a bi-monthly now, it helps.) Bill could add the SNUG section sent in from one of its officers. We could talk to SNUG thru our newsletters.

A national SNUG BBS? The CATUG machine has three BBSs on it now and has been up with few interruptions since 1984. The CATUG BBS was written from my home on a T/S2068 for a T/S2068. I believe that few others drive your MTERM screen or transfer programs as well as ours does. (That's an offer, SNUG)

A SNUG software library? If I purchased all the different libraries around the country it would cost me well over $500 and would be loaded with dups and programs that wouldn't run. If each group uploaded their stuff to the SNUG BBS there would be few duplicities and it would be free to all.

Let's hear what the rest of you feel about this subject.

How do we survive into the year 2000? Get disk drives and modems as a matter of survival. It seems strange to me that

only one of our QLer has a modem! Buy up that spare hardware while it is still available. We have lost some of our T/S-JLO users due to burned out T/S2068s and the high price of repair or unique chips. It seems that we have a tendency to tax the computers 5 volt supply. Get needed software to your librarian when you have gotten it to disk.

Reprint anything from 1987 back as about half of the users out here are like me and have had no contact with the T/S world before then. So half of us have never seen all that great software in the PD that many of you have. Case in point, I put out a call to CATUG members for PD software and a list of what was available. Only last week our past club pres sold me a bunch of programs I had never heard of before, he certainly was not under a rock when I first asked!

Is there a good tape copying program out there? I have heard there is but I have seen no articles. Print it or send it to me for downloading to our BBS.

Copy our newsletter and any others that give permission and hand them out only at meetings. Your members will be more interested in coming out to take home all that fine paper. If your group does not have reasonable access to a copy machine, perhaps we can exchange on disk, let me know.

If anyone has any more suggestions, lets hear them.

Bill Jones, our newsletters are downloadable from the BBS and I will continue to keep you on our mailing list to keep new material coming in to you.

Alex Burr of QZX journal in Las Cruces, New Mexico, visited CATUG in January. He wanted to learn all he could about disk drive systems for the T/S computers and we showed him drives on the QL and JLO and LarKen on the T/S 2068. Alex, our time together was too short and I would like to know if you have seen T/S2068 programs to do the following:

WEFAX
CW send and receive
RTTY
ATV slow-scan

Joyce Blaho of the Boston group BoSTUG came to Chicago and we had a long phone conversation. I mentioned my views on putting out the newsletters less often, copying other newsletters to put out at meetings and printing them in the 8 1/2 x 11 standard format. Joyce, I should mention that we have only received your September/October issue in all of 1989, can you do anything about that? Maybe you are still mailing to our old address?

Butch Weinberg, President
Chicago Area Timex Users Group.

TREA$URY NOTE$

After our last mailing expense of $37.00 and other expenses our balance stands at $199.24. Our current paid membership stands at 25.

Al Feng, Treasurer
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

SECRETARYS NOTEPAD

November 11, 1989

The meeting was opened by our president at 1:30PM. Present: Messrs. Brezina, Cooper, Donaldson, Feng, Majewski, Mills, Pashtoon, Sauter, Swoger, Ulreich and Weinberg. Gary Lessenberry joined us later and was greeted as the fellow who started this group in the first place. (Good to see you again, Gary.)

John Donaldson brought a guest,

George Whitaker, who, besides owning a TS1000, owns and uses an Amstrad PCW. Once sold as only a word processor, he has upgraded it with a second disk drive (3") and has a modem ready for use. He was looking for someone conversant in CPM, primarily, and found him in Nazir.

There was some discussion about the validity of the group's mailing list but after the doubts were resolved, it ended in agreement (as it always does in any well-run organization). It is apparently as complete as it can be.

Al Feng asked who would want to type in his Drop Down Menus QL program listed in the September /October issue of Nite Times News. Bob Swoger pointed out that it could be downloaded from the BBS file if you have a modem. Whereupon Bob loaned him a 300 baud modem and tried a little high pressure on the rest of us to buy one, too. The answer to Al's question, then is: anyone who doesn't have a modem!

Swoger has requested other groups to inform him on what groups they exchange newsletters with so we might add them to our exchange program. His discussions with other groups have convinced him that our present list is probably incomplete. He also wants to know which newsletters can be copied (or can't).

Those we do receive are available at our regular meetings for perusal. He feels that this is what keeps our members coming out and that other groups would do well to follow suit.

One of the eyecatchers in the new Inmac catalog is a 70 watt uninterruptable power supply. This can give you another 10 minutes to save your data before the lights go out for good.

News comes down from Canada that Larry Kenny of LarKen fame, has gotten a PC clone to aid in getting out his spell checker for the T/S2068. Larry says reports that he plans to devote his energies to the PC are NOT TRUE! If you've been, however, putting off the purchase of a LarKen product, don't wait too long as we don't want to lose Larry!

Here's the value of belonging to a user group such as ours: Al Feng experienced a smoky, catastrophic failure of his QL system and has a baggie of burned-out chips to prove it. Nazir loaned a QL mother board because Al's backup board was a crippled board; Nazir also loaned him a CST disk interface and John had provided a 512K Expandaram in a prior swap for a disk drive. His disk drives were OK, somehow, so he was up and running in short order.

QUANTA reports via Al Feng that ABC Electronics of West Germany lists a keyboard interface for the QL which is PC compatible. This will accommodate PC, PC-XT, or switchable PC-AT keyboards. It plugs into the ROM port but does not include the keyboard.

Butch Weinberg showed us a little item he ordered from a C.O.M.B. catalog: He bought 100 disks, packaged 10 disks to a case. The disk construction got the Bob Swoger seal of approval immediately. (They run much quieter than those Butch has been using.) And the boxes have a unique appeal of their own. The lids fold back to prop up each box and, in doing so, set one disk above the other so there's no digging one disk from between two others. Neat trick!

Gary Lessenberry donated a complete set of Time Designs Magazines for our library. These will form a worthy addition to a growing

collection! He also had news for modem users: He's been working with an MS-DOS bulletin board in the Great Lakes area to set up a Chicago port for the national Sinclair Echo. An echo is a message base shared by many computer systems and every night it is transmitted from one computer system to another so that here in Chicago, you can put up a message on the message base which will come up on the same message base in L.A., New York, Atlanta, Seattle, and to anybody securing that particular echo. For about 4 months, there has been a national echo called Sinclair Users United (or something like that) originating out of Oregon City and also is carried in Newark, NJ and Denver and they're working on nodes in Dallas/ Ft.Worth, L.A., and Detroit. Pete Fischer is doing the coordination on methods for echo transmission. As soon as it's available, Gary will let us know and will put up a notice on our BBS and on the Astral Plane BBS, as well.

Gary also came to sell a Zebra Talker he no longer uses for $15 and a cable TV descrambler he built from a $60 kit which uses the horizontal sync form of descrambling. Price? $10. It works fine but his cable company changed its method of scrambling. (We wonder why!) Before the meeting ended, both were sold. So it pays to come to monthly meetings.

Nazir and Jay Siegel visited the Sinclair Milwaukee Users Group (SMUG) last month. This was to be a "hardware meeting" but most of the discussion was on the 1990 Sinclair Computer Exposition. (More about that later.) There is a lot of expertise there, Nazir tells us. Most of the attendees showed up with circuit boards, etc., especially RLE scanners for T/S2068s. They are well organized with scheduled tutorials in "C" and a number of special interest groups for Spectrum, etc.

The business meeting was closed at 2:30 PM. This was followed by an exciting MIDI demo on a TS2068 by John Ulreich. A report on it will come in a future issue.

SEMINARS, DOOR PRIZES, SWAP SHOP, SOFTWARE, PERIPHERALS, HARDWARE AND LOTS OF OTHER STUFF

That's how the SMUG wants you to think of the 1990 Sinclair Computer Exposition. Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 2nd and Sunday, June 3rd, 1990. It will be held in the Waukesha Holiday Inn at the junction of I-94 & Hwy 18 in Waukesha. Prices are reasonable: $4 for a day, $7 for two (in advance); $16 for the banquet and $25 for display tables. There will be a SNUG meeting on Saturday night. Let's see a good representation from CATUG. We need to support each other.

Need more information? Call Neal Schultz from 7-10 PM on (414) 353-4522

John Donaldson, Secretary
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

GATOR's TWISTED PAIR

Recently I was told by two users that the board was hard to use. After talking to one of them for a while, I found again as I have through the years, that users still do not read what comes up on their screens! There is a request at the LOGO of the BBS asking if the user wishes instructions. If the user will read this, he will find that there are 5 control codes he MUST learn to use the system.

Use **CONTROL S** and **CONTROL Q** to halt and continue printing to your screen.

Use **CONTROL Z** to terminate the

questions in the MAIl mode or other places in the SYSTEM except the BBS.

Use **CONTROL C** to get the MCR> prompt and then ABO AT. or ABO PIP to stop running .CMD programs or PIP actions. Entering ACT at the MCR> prompt will show you what is running.

Use **CONTROL O** to toggle the 'print to screen' feature off and on. If you get tired of reading a long file or you wish to skip thru it, use **CONTROL O** to turn off the 'print to screen' and the file pointer will proceed as quick as it can to the bottom of the file. If you wish to see where the pointer is at while you are waiting **CONTROL O** will turn on the 'print to screen' again.

Remember these **CONTROL** codes and you will have only good times on the system.

One more thing, use the BACK ARROW as the delete key because the delete key in MTERM is really a back-space, CONTROL H, not a true delete.

! ! ! R E M E M B E R ! ! !
CATUG has a 24 hour BBS and we encourage you to exchange mail and contribute to the Download Section. Use it and have fun!

```
*******************************
*   C A T U G  B B S          *
*       708/576-7072          *
*   Type at the > prompt:     *
*    LOG SINCLAIR/GUEST       *
*      BYE to log out         *
*******************************
```

Bob Swoger, K9WVY, SYSOP
Chicago Area Timex Users Group.

ITEMS FOR SALE THROUGH THE CLUB

B & B Computer Supplies of Elk Grove Village carries:

Ribbons
Diskettes
Printer Paper by the case
9 1/2 X 11 15# 3500 Sheets
Fan-Fold Pin Feed $30

Printer Paper by the case
9 1/2 X 11 20# 2700 Sheets
Fan-Fold Pin Feed $28

Printer Paper by the box
9 1/2 X 11 15# 1000 Sheets
Fan-Fold Pin Feed $10.95

Printer Paper by the box
9 1/2 X 11 20# 1000 Sheets
Fan-Fold Pin Feed $13

Contact:
Joe Becker 708/860-2906

SPECIAL DEALS AND BUYS

CLUB POLICY REGARDING SPECIAL PURCHASES

Each special buy will have a CHAIRMAN who will coordinate ALL ACTIVITY regarding a purchase. The CHAIRMAN will publicize the special buy through the newsletter and at the CATUG meetings. All interaction will go through the CHAIRMAN and all checks will be sent to him, payable to the CHAIRMAN.

When the purchased goods arrive, the CHAIRMAN will see that they are distributed. All special buys must be PAID IN ADVANCE because the CATUG does not have enough funds to handle all of the buys without cash flow problems. So you MUST SEND A CHECK TO THE CHAIRMAN BEFORE THE DEADLINE or you will not be included in the special buy. The CHAIRMAN will contact the members on his interest list regarding deadlines and purchase price or alternately, it will appear in the NITE-TIMES newsletter.

Bob Swoger is the chairman for the following:

%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%

256K RAM-DISK KIT for T/S 2068

%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%

LarKen RAM-Disk Operating system board built and tested, 256K RAM-DISK board with connectors only, no IC's. The Disk Drive controller board can be added later to control up to 4 more double sided drives. Battery back-up, all system software.

**** $88.00 postage paid. *** Contact the chairman for more details. There is no Qty. buy necessary. 708/576-8068

ARTICLES

AOS-LKDOS

An Auxiliary Operating System
for use with LKDOS

Bob Swoger, K9WVY
Motorola, Inc.
708/576-8068
Schaumburg, IL

T/S 2068
T/S 2040
T/S 2050
Legend 1000
AERCO CPI
LARKEN DOS

Tired of typing long DOS commands to select drives and load programs to run? Does RANDOMIZE USR 100:OPEN #4,"dd": PRINT #4:CAT"",:PAUSE 0:PRINT #4:LOAD "filename.type" seem to you like a long path name instruction required by CoCo OS-9, IBM UNIX or APOLLO machine? If all you want to do is select a drive by typing in the drive number and run a program by typing in just its name, and not have to turn off the machine between programs or install a RESET switch, READ ON!

This is the second of a two part article which will give owners of the LARKEN disk system greater ease in getting around from program to program in a multi-drive system. Last time you were given a menu program to assist in locating all those great programs that you can now run. In this article you are provided with a Auxiliary Operating System (AOS) to make getting around in a LarKen multi-drive system as easy as entering the drive number you wish to go to and entering the program name you wish to run. Even if you don't have a multi-drive system yet but have one drive and the LARKEN RAM-DISK this little program will still be of benefit to you.

Unlike other operating systems which reside in RAM and take up precious program space, this Auxiliary Operating System exits the machine when a new program is loaded in and returns when the program has finished. Some of the features of AOS-LKDOS are as follows:

1.) Asks you for the drive you wish to use next.
2.) Automatic display of disk directory. (Catalog)
3.) Asks you for the program you wish to run next.
4.) Easily creates the AUTOSTART program on disk.
5.) Easily adds itself to disk.
6.) Easy erase routine.
7.) Easy Call for FORMAT and MOVE if on current drive.
8.) Easy call for word processor.
9.) Easy call for Terminal software.
10.) Easy call for AUTOSTART.
11.) Shows RLE pictures on screen.
12.) Prints directory out on 2040 for disk label.

Here is how the L.B1 Auxiliary Operating System works:

With your machine turned off you hold down the J key and the <ENTER> key and turn on the machine. Instantly the DISKS.B1 program comes up on the screen. You eyeball scan the menu boards using the <NEXT> key to find where disks are in your library cases. You place the disk(s) you have selected from the library case(s) into the desired drive(s) and enter 'Q'

for quit and <ENTER>. The DISKS.B1 program now leaves the screen and the RAM-DISK directory (catalog) or, if you don't have a RAM-DISK, the drive 0 directory (drive 0 is a concept difficult for the Boisverts to comprehend) appears on the screen and at the bottom of the screen the question 'DRIVE?'.

Enter the number of the drive you wish to use next followed by <ENTER>. The directory of the disk in that drive will now appear on the screen and at the bottom of the screen the word 'Program?'. You enter the name and extender of the program you wish to use next, hit <ENTER> and the program loads and runs.

When you are finished with the program you do one of three things, Quit from the programs menu, STOP the program and then 'CONTINUE', or STOP the program and enter 'GOTO 9998' <ENTER>. The disk directory will again appear on the screen with the word 'DRIVE? ' at the bottom of the screen and you can go again as before.

The program DISKS.B1 should be on the RAM-DISK or on the disk in DRIVE 0 if you don't have the RAM-DISK. The program L.B1 given here and AUTOSTART created by L.B1 should be on the RAM-DISK and every floppy you have. AUTOSTART can be modified to start programs other than L(arKen).B1 once it has been installed. This procedure will be discussed later.

To install the Auxiliary Operating System L.B1:

Enter the program into your machine, run it and enter the drive number that you wish to store it on. Then enter 'S' at the 'Program?' prompt, hit <ENTER> and the program L.B1 will be stored on the disk. Now enter 'A' at the 'Program?' prompt, hit <ENTER>, then 'd' and the program AUTOSTART will be stored on the disk. (If you are in the SPECTRUM mode, type GOTO 360 after the error, then 'd' and the program AUTOSTART will be stored on the disk.)

You will now have to modify the other programs on disk to cause L.B1 to be loaded upon completion of the program. Most programs are saved on lines greater than 9990 so add line 9998 PRINT #4: LOAD "L.B1" to the program. L.B1 will then be run after each successful save. You can also type GOTO 9998 to Boot the Auxiliary Operating System. On programs that are menu driven, add a selection '0.) EXIT ' to the menu that directs the program to the new line 9998. On programs that end with a STOP statement you can either modify it to read 'STOP:GOTO 9998' so that entering CONTINUE <ENTER> after the STOP occurs will load L.B1, or change the STOP statement to read GOTO 9998.

At the 'Program?' prompt you can enter 'E' <ENTER> and you will get the 'PRINT #4: ERASE"",' prompt. Enter the name with the extender of the file to be erased, <ENTER> and the file will be removed from the directory. Also you can enter 'F' <ENTER> or 'M' <ENTER> and call in FORMAT.BL or MOVE.BL if they are on the current drive to perform the FORMAT, MOVE and RENAME functions.

A HELP screen is also available to show all the possible keys that will give you desired results. Just press 'H' at either prompt to see the HELP file. In it you will see that entering 'W' at the 'Program?' prompt will LOAD in the TASWOR.BA" word processor and 'T' will LOAD in the 'MTERM.B1' terminal software.

At the 'Program?' prompt you can enter 'Z' <ENTER> and you will get a COPY on your T/S 2040 printer of the directory screen which can be placed in

the sleeve with the disk to show what all is on the disk.

To modify the AUTOSTART program, hold down the CAPS SHIFT and BREAK keys at the same time while holding down the key(s) for the AUTOSTART sequence and power up the machine. This will break the AUTOSTART program. Modify line 350 with the name and extension of the file you wish to AUTOSTART, then type GOTO 360 and 'd' to reinstall the modified AUTOSTART.

This program can be downloaded from the CATUG BBS using MTERM II on your Westridge 2050. Use the data parameters 8-N-1 Full-DUPLEX, buffer conversion HEX and the buffer closed and empty. Call 708/576-7072 and after connecting hit <ENTER> until you get the '>' prompt. Then type: LOG SINCLAIR/GUEST

Go to the BBS download section and download L.B1 . If you wish to have this document, download L.DOC in the buffer conversion mode NONE. Remember that you are a guest on this board and please act accordingly.

If you wish a tape or disk copy of these two programs please contact me any week day at 708/576-8068.

When you get your system disks from LarKen you will find that the TASWORD II driver modified for LKDOS doesn't work properly. Next time we will print one for you that does work and has all the original features and more. It is also available as a download on our BBS.

```
  10 REM --== L.B1 ==-- WRITTEN
 BY ROBERT E. SWOGER  JULY 23,
1988 V3.3
  20 PRINT USR VAL "100": OPEN
#VAL "4","dd": POKE VAL"23658",
VAL "8": PAPER SGN PI: INK SGN
PI: BORDER SGN PI: BRIGHT NOT P
I: CLS : CLEAR VAL "65367": GO
SUB VAL "30"
  22 PRINT #VAL "4": INK VAL "7
": POKE VAL "23658",VAL "8":PRI
NT #NOT PI;"DRIVE? ": GO TO VAL
 "40"
  30 PRINT #VAL "4": INK SGN PI
: CLS : PRINT #VAL "4": POKE VA
L"8200",VAL "8195": LET D8=USR
110: LET D9=(D8=4)+(2*(D8=8))+(
3*(D8=16))+(4*(D8=128)): PRINT
#VAL "4":CAT "",: PRINT "Drive
#     00";D9: RETURN
  40 LET D$=INKEY$: IF D$<"0" O
R D$>"4" AND D$<>"H" AND D$<>"T
" THEN GO TO VAL "40"
  50 IF D$="H" THEN PRINT #VAL
"4":INK SGN PI: GO TO VAL "500"
  54 IF D$="T" THEN LOAD "": GO
 TO VAL "80"
  60 PRINT #VAL "4": GO TO VAL
D$
  65 IF VAL D$=D9 THEN GO TO VA
L "80"
  70 GO SUB VAL "30"
  80 POKE VAL "23728",VAL "100"
  90 PRINT #VAL "4": INK VAL "7
":INPUT "Program? "; LINE P$:IN
K SGN PI
 110 IF P$="1" OR P$="2" OR P$=
"3" OR P$="4" THEN PRINT #VAL"4
":GO TO VAL P$: LET D$=P$: GO T
O VAL "70"
 115 IF P$="A" OR P$="a" THEN G
O TO VAL "351"
 120 IF P$="B" OR P$="b" THEN C
LS : PRINT #VAL "4": CAT ".B^",
:PRINT "Drive #     00";D$: GO
TO VAL "80"
 125 IF P$="D" OR P$="d" THEN G
O TO VAL "22"
 130 IF P$="E" OR P$="e" OR P$=
"7" THEN GO TO VAL "300"
 135 IF P$="F" OR P$="f" OR P$=
"0" THEN PRINT #VAL "4": LOAD "
FRMT.BL"
 140 IF P$="H" OR P$="h" OR P$=
"?" THEN GO TO VAL "500"
 145 IF P$="K" OR P$="k" THEN P
RINT #VAL "4": GO TO SGN PI:PRI
NT #VAL "4": SAVE "S.C$"SCREEN$
:PRINT #VAL "4": GO TO D9
 150 IF P$="L" OR P$="l" OR P$=
"9" THEN GO TO VAL "20"
 155 IF P$="M" OR P$="m" OR P$=
"6" THEN PRINT #4: LOAD "MOVE.B
L"
 160 IF P$="N" OR P$="n" THEN C
LS : PRINT #4: NEW
 165 IF P$="Q" OR P$="q" THEN I
NK VAL "9": STOP : GO TO SGN PI
 170 IF P$="R" OR P$="r" OR P$=
"V" OR P$="v" THEN GO TO VAL"40
0"
 175 IF P$="S" OR P$="s" THEN G
```

```
O TO VAL "9990"
 180 IF P$="T" OR P$="t" THEN P
RINT #4: LOAD "TERM.B1"
 185 IF P$="W" OR P$="w" THEN P
RINT #4: LOAD "TASWOR.BA"
 190 IF P$="Y" OR P$="y" THEN R
ANDOMIZE USR VAL "54016"
 195 IF P$="Z" OR P$="z" OR P$=
"C" OR P$="c" THEN COPY : GO TO
 VAL "80"
 200 FOR I=SGN PI TO LEN P$
 210 IF P$(I)="." THEN GO TO VA
L "230"
 220 NEXT I: GO TO VAL "80"
 230 IF P$(I+SGN PI)="B" THEN G
O TO VAL "280"
 240 IF P$(LEN P$-SGN PI TO )<>
"C$" THEN GO TO VAL "270"
 250 PRINT #VAL "4": INK NOT PI
:PRINT #VAL "4": PAPER NOT PI:B
ORDER NOT PI: PRINT #VAL "4": L
OAD P$SCREEN$ : PRINT #VAL "4":
INK VAL "7": PRINT #VAL "4": PA
PER NOT PI
 260 PAUSE NOT PI: PRINT #VAL "
4": INK VAL "6": PAUSE NOT PI:P
RINT #VAL "4": PAPER SGN PI: BO
RDER SGN PI: GO TO VAL "70"
 270 BORDER SGN PI: PRINT #VAL
"4": LOAD P$CODE : GO TO VAL "7
0"
 280 INK VAL "9": PRINT #VAL "4
": LOAD P$: GO TO VAL "70"
 300 INPUT " PRINT #4: ERASE ";
E$
 310 PRINT #VAL "4": ERASE E$,
 320 GO TO VAL "70"
 330 CLEAR VAL "65367"
 340 PRINT USR VAL "100": OPEN
#VAL "4","dd"
 350 PRINT #VAL "4": LOAD "L.B1
"
 352 DELETE SGN PI,VAL "329"
 354 DELETE VAL "380",VAL "9999
"
 356 DELETE 351,359
 360 CLEAR VAL "27550"
 370 PRINT USR VAL "102": RUN
 410 PRINT #4: VERIFY ""
 420 GO TO VAL "90"
 500 REM HELP SCREEN$
 510 PRINT USR 100: INK 1: CLS
:PRINT "       H E L P    F I L
E       %%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
%%%%%%%%%";'''"You may select dr
ives T thru 4."'''" At the  Prog
ram?  prompt:";''
 520 PRINT "6   Calls in the MO
VE program.","7   ERASEs progra
m from disk.","9   Refreshes th
e CATalog.","0   Calls in the F
ORMAT program.";"A   Adds AUTOS
TART to disk.","Q   Quit, halts
this program.","R   VERIFYs CRC
 is OK."'"S   SAVEs this progra
m to disk.","T   Calls in TERMI
NAL program.","W   Calls in WOR
D PROCESSOR.","Z   COPYs CATalo
g to printer."
 530 PRINT '"Holding down  CAPS
 SHIFT & BREAKduring  AUTOSTART
sequence willbreak into AUTOSTA
RT program.";
 540 PRINT #VAL "4": INK VAL "7
": PRINT #NOT PI;"    Press <EN
TER> to CONTINUE ": PAUSE NOT P
I
 550 PRINT AT VAL "7",NOT PI;"A
   Adds AUTOSTART to disk.","B
  Gives a Brief CATalog.","C
COPYs CATalog to printer.","D
 Returns the Drive? prompt.","F
   Calls in the FORMAT program.
";"H   Calls in this HELP file.
","K   Saves $creen to disk.","
M   Calls in the MOVE program."
,"N   NEW, reactivates AUTOSTAR
T."'"V   VERIFYs CRC is OK.","Y
   RETURNs to terminal mode."
 560 PAUSE NOT PI: INK SGN PI:
CLS : GO TO VAL"20"+(D$<>"H")*V
AL "50"
9989 SAVE "L.B1": STOP
9992 PRINT #VAL "4": SAVE "L.B1
" LINE SGN PI
9999 GO TO VAL "80"
```

TRUMP CARD on the QL

by

Butch Weinberg

Well, here we go again! Al Feng said, "Ask Butch about the TRUMP Card". Now you may not have to!

The TRUMP Card that I use is a combination 768K memory board and disk interface. As with all QL disk interfaces, it plugs into the 64-way connector which is located behind a "trap door" on the left hand side of the keyboard. Currently, there are three versions of the TRUMP Card available (Memory varies in 256K increments). All are fully socketed; and, lesser boards can now be expanded with the addition of the appropriate chips.

The TRUMP Card has additional code which makes the "extra" 256K of RAM act as though it is a part of the "standard" 640K to which a QL is normally limited. Consequently, all of the extra memory can be used as a single RAM disk of over 800K ("Dynamic" RAM disk code is just one of the added features of the TRUMP Card).

SuperTOOLKIT coding is another major inclusion on the TRUMP Card. The SuperTOOLKIT code is in "upper" memory, and must be invoked using the 'TK2_ext'. The ROM port remains free for another EPROM. The advantages of the SuperTOOLKIT are too numerous to mention here.

The TRUMP Card also has a limited 'Screen Dump' (EPSON and OKIDATA compatible dot matrix printer).

The TRUMP Card is as compact as a standard disk interface (about 21" total length). A modularly expanded QL is about 26 inches.

The only real limitation is the inability to address more than two drives. Tom Bent (of the CATS User Group) has suggested a possible fix for this; but, I don't have a need to access more than two drives.

Al Feng has mentioned that the 34 pin socket (for the I/O cable) lacks a "quick release" mechanism; and, he thinks the lack of a plastic shroud makes the QL look a bit unfinished. Neither bothers me; and, I'm the one using it every day!

If you don't already have a disk interface, then consider getting one. All QL disk interfaces provide fast and reliable LOADs and SAVEs. SuperBASIC programs LOAD in the time it takes for the QL to ingest the program. Machine code programs LOAD in a few seconds. The microcartridges are an adequate storage medium; but, disks are vastly superior.

While the TRUMP Card's current cost may seem high, it is bound to come down a little as DRAM prices come down. You can always purchase one of a 256K board for the time being, and add chips later.

If you get the TRUMP Card, I don't think that you will be disappointed. I've been using the TRUMP card along with dual 720K 5.25" disk drives for about a year now and I'm as pleased today as I was when I finally began to unleash the potential of the QL.

A NEW WORLD OF COMMERCIAL ELECTRONIC MAIL SERVICES

by Dave Lebowitz

Ever since I invested $19.95 for my first stripped down, uncased Timex/Sinclair 300 Baud modem (several years ago from a store in San Fransisco called Sunset Electronics), I've been fascinated by electronic communicating. As I've moved from TS1000 to TS2068 to QL to IBM compatibles, perhaps my first priority has been the availability of hardware & software to use each of these computers as communication devices.

For a time, the ability to reach bulletin boards throughout the country that carried information on Sinclair equipment became vitally important in a situation where commercial newsletters & magazines were drying up. Not only could I learn more about my computers, I "got to know" many T/S enthusiasts throughout the country. More than making friends, I was able to avoid the feeling of "isolation" common to many of our "orphaned computer" users.

When Illinois Bell changed its rate structure resulting in expensive toll charges for calls within the metropolitan Chicago area that were formerly single unit calls, I developed an interest in nearby bulletin

boards. For the most part these were concerned with MS-DOS computers, Apples, Amigas and the like. While I wasn't greatly interested in the technical discussions about computers I didn't own, there were often interesting discussions on a variety of topics from politics to religion and from medical information to local zoning and school problems. For a time it was quite fascinating, but after a while there seemed to be a certain "sameness" to issues and attitudes and I just got bored with it.

Through a University connection I was able to secure a sign-on that gave me access to a University mainframe. This, in turn provided access to the wonderful world of Bitnet, an electronics communications network linking academic and research facilities world wide almost instantly and at no cost to the user other than the phone line charges. What's more, through "gateways," it became possible for me to communicate with people on many commercial networks as well (again at no cost). I had the added bonus of being able to communicate with my two sons, one teaching at a University in Minnesota and the other working for a computer software firm in Boston.

I was first introduced to commercial computer communications at the T/S Fest in Indianapolis a few years ago. I attended a workshop on Compuserve and came away with a complimentary sign up kit. However, after a couple of months of using the service, I felt that the costs of reaching it and the time charges simply outweighed the advantages of using the service. Although I still access it once in a while for specific purposes, I tend to use it very sparingly.

About a year ago I read an article in COMPUTER SHOPPER that described a new service from AT&T Mail, another electronic mail provider. In addition to conventional electronic mail, AT&T would now provide a service whereby the user could upload any ASCII text to AT&T Mail and then send it instantly to any FAX machine, regardless of where in the world it was located. What's more, the charges were very minimal, approximately 95 cents for a full page of text after paying an annual fee of $30.00. There were no on-line charges for time and access was through a toll free 800 number. At the time, I had been debating the acquisition of a FAX machine, but had hesitated because I felt that while there were times when it would be useful to FAX, my needs were somewhat limited. The AT&T service solved my problem. My need was basically for outbound FAX (you can't receive on this system) and the cost was reasonable enough. So I embarked on a new course in electronic communication.

Just recently, I dropped my AT&T mail service in favor of similar service from MCI. The difference, lower cost and better service. My MCI mail allows me the flexibility of reaching many more electronic mail users directly (through electronic network "gateways") in addition to the FAX capability. I am billed at the rate of $10 per month, that allows me 40 free pages of either FAX or E-Mail. That's .25 each, the same charge as the U.S. Postal service except my mail arrives in minutes instead of days. Another nice feature of MCI mail is that you receive confirmation that your FAX has been delivered. With AT&T, I always had a concern that it might not have been received!

So these days, what started out as part of the fun of being a computer hobbyist has turned into making my business more profitable (and a little more

fun, too). I still access the Bulletin Boards once in a while, as witnessed by the fact that after this article is written, I won't print it onto the printer and mail it off, I'll simply upload it to the CATUG Bulletin Board for inclusion in a future issue of the Nite Time News!

Since I can assume you have a computer, you already own most of what you will need to take part in communicating electronically. Modems keep dropping in cost and good communications software is readily available. You'll open up a whole new world for your computer and yourself if you give it a try!

CLASSIFIED ADS

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